

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method of delivering information, the method comprising the step of:
delivering at least a portion of the information to a receiver in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;
wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and
wherein upon decryption of the at least partially-encrypted format, access to the information is provided at another quality level.
12. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the storage device comprises at least one of a disk, a memory card and a cartridge.
15. (Amended) An apparatus for delivering information, comprising:
a transmitter operative to transmit at least a portion of the information to a receiver in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;
wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and
wherein upon decryption of the at least partially-encrypted format, access to the information is provided at another quality level.
26. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the storage device comprises at least one of a disk, a memory card and a cartridge.
29. (Amended) A method of receiving information, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving at least a portion of the information from a transmitter in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;

wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and

wherein upon decryption of the at least partially-encrypted format, access to the information is provided at another quality level.

31. (Amended) An apparatus for receiving information, comprising:

a receiver operative to receive at least a portion of the information from a transmitter in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;

wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and

wherein upon decryption of the at least partially-encrypted format, access to the information is provided at another quality level.

33. (Amended) A method of delivering information, the method comprising the step of:

delivering at least a portion of the information to a receiver, using at least first and second bitstreams of a digital communication system, wherein the first bitstream is encrypted and the second bitstream is unencrypted, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;

wherein the first and second bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and

wherein upon decryption of the first bitstream, access to the information is provided at another quality level.

34. (Amended) An apparatus for delivering information, comprising:

a transmitter operative to transmit at least a portion of the information to a receiver, using at least first and second bitstreams of a digital communication system, wherein the first bitstream is encrypted and the second bitstream is unencrypted, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level;

wherein the first and second bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system; and

wherein upon decryption of the first bitstream, access to the information is provided at another quality level.

35. (Amended) A method of delivering information, the method comprising the steps of:

delivering at least a portion of the information to a receiver in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level without decrypting the information in the at least partially-encrypted format; and

providing via an electronic commerce system a key for decrypting the information in the at least partially-encrypted format, such that when the information is decrypted, access to the information is provided at a second quality level higher than the first quality level;

wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system.

37. (Amended) An apparatus for delivering information, comprising:

a transmitter operative to transmit at least a portion of the information to a receiver in an at least partially-encrypted format using multiple bitstreams of a digital communication system, such that access to the information is provided at a first quality level without decrypting the information in the at least partially-encrypted format, and wherein a key for decrypting the information in the at least partially-encrypted format is provided via an electronic commerce system, such that when the information is decrypted, access to the information is provided at a second quality level higher than the first quality level;

wherein the multiple bitstreams are transmitted in subbands of one or more digital sidebands of a carrier signal in the system.